

P032604/WO/1

PCT/EP03/005096

07-23-2004

EP0305096

P032604/WO/1

5

DaimlerChrysler AG

Branse

New Patent Claims

- 10 1. A supporting structure for a motor vehicle, in
particular an automobile, having a longitudinal beam
arrangement (2), to at least one longitudinal end (3)
of which a bumper arrangement (4) is attached, which
has a crossbeam, (7) - the crossbeam (7) in an axial
15 direction resting against the longitudinal beam
arrangement (2) by way of two longitudinal beam parts
(12),
- the longitudinal beam parts (12) being attached to
a central section (11) of the crossbeam (7) which is
20 located at a distance from the ends (8) of the
crossbeam (7),
- the longitudinal beam parts (12) at their ends
remote from the crossbeam (7) being attached by way
of a bearing bracket (13) to one another and to the
25 longitudinal beam arrangement (2),
- the bearing bracket (13) taking the form of a crash
element, which exercises an energy-absorbing effect
in the event of crash,
characterized in that

ART 34 AMDT

AMENDED SHEET

- the bumper arrangement (4) has a bending beam (5) attached to the ends (8) of the crossbeam (7),
- the bending beam (5), at least in the central section (11), rests on the crossbeam (7) by way of at least one energy-absorbing foam body (10).

2. The supporting structure as claimed in claim 1, **characterized in that** the longitudinal beam parts (12) run parallel to the longitudinal direction (6) of the vehicle and at a distance from one another in the horizontal direction.

3. The supporting structure as claimed in claim 1 or 2, **characterized in that** the longitudinal beam arrangement (2) is arranged essentially in the center of the vehicle.

4. The supporting structure as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 3, **characterized in that** the bending beam (5) is supported at its ends on the crossbeam (7) such that it can rotate about vertical axes.

5. The supporting structure as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 4, **characterized in that** the bending beam (5) is attached exclusively at its ends to the crossbeam (7).

* * * * *

ART 34 AMDT
AMENDED SHEET